

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 9 to read as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An image pickup apparatus comprising:
an image pickup element;
a first memory for storing ~~an~~ first image data obtained by said image pickup element;
~~a signal~~ an image forming processing circuit adapted to effect
~~predetermined signal~~ image forming processing on ~~an~~ the first image data read out of ~~a first~~
~~area of~~ said first memory; and
a second memory for storing second image data subjected to the image
forming processing by said image forming processing circuit; and
a memory control circuit adapted to, ~~in a mode of continuously picking up~~
~~still images~~, carry out in parallel a writing operation of writing ~~an~~ the first image data,
~~obtained by said image pickup element~~, into ~~the first area of~~ said first memory and a
writing operation of writing the second image data, ~~subjected to the predetermined signal~~
~~processing by said signal processing circuit~~, into ~~a second area of~~ said second memory,
wherein said memory control circuit carries out the parallel writing operations after said
first memory stores at least one image frame of the first image data.
2. (Currently Amended) The image pickup apparatus according to
Claim 1, wherein said ~~signal~~ image forming processing circuit carries out white balance
processing and compression processing of ~~an~~ the first image data read out of ~~the first area~~
of said first memory.
3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The image pickup apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said memory control circuit further carries out a readout operation of reading ~~an~~ the second image data stored in ~~the second area of~~ said second memory in parallel with the writing ~~operation and readout operation~~ operations, to record the second image data in a recording medium.

5. (Currently Amended) The image pickup apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said ~~signal~~ image forming processing circuit and said memory control circuit are included on a single integrated circuit.

6-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A control method of an image pickup apparatus having an image pickup element, a first memory, a second memory and ~~a signal~~ an image forming processing circuit, said method comprising:

a first writing step of writing ~~an~~ first image data obtained by the image pickup element~~[[,]]~~ into ~~a first area of~~ the first memory,

a reading step of reading ~~an~~ the first image data already stored in ~~the first area of~~ the first memory;

~~a signal~~ an image forming processing step for ~~predetermined signal~~ image forming processing on the first image data read out of ~~the first area of~~ the first memory by in said reading step; and

a second writing step of writing ~~the~~ second image data subjected to the ~~predetermined signal~~ image forming processing in said ~~signal~~ image forming processing step into a ~~second area of the~~ second memory, wherein said second writing step is performed in parallel with said first writing step after at least one image frame of the first image data is written into the first memory.

10. (Cancelled)